

The Conservatory for the Performing Arts at Stephens College
76th Theatre Season Presents

Songs for a New World

Music and Lyrics by Jason Robert Brown

**Macklanburg Playhouse
September 2023**

Director/Choreographer Lisa Brescia
Music Director Nollie Moore
Stage Manager Anni Molgard
Set Designer Brandon PT Davis
Costume Designer Makenzie Schutter
Lighting Designer Katie Cohen
Sound Designer Michael Burke
Properties Manager Brandon PT Davis
Assistant Stage Managers Kay Gilchrist, Duncan Elder
Assistant Lighting Designer Zack Anderson

Orchestra

Keyboard Travis McFarlane
Bass Matt Schmitz
Drums/Percussion Matt Fetterly
Guitar Pete Szkolka

Special Thanks to Our 2023-24 Sponsors

State Farm, Stephanie Wilmsmeyer, Insurance Agent, KFRU 98.9 FM, 1400AM, Central Bank of Boone County, Girard Homes, Macadoodles, Studio Home, Heidelberg, Markel and Lingo Attorneys, American Shoe and Shelter Insurance

There will be a 15-minute intermission

Songs for a New World is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

Credits

Music and Lyrics by Jason Robert Brown

Originally Produced by the WPA Theatre, New York City, 1995
(Kyle Renick, Artistic Director)

Original Orchestration by Brian Besterman and Jason Robert Brown

Cast

ACT ONE—Song Breakdown

Opening Sequence I “The New World” Company

Opening Sequence II “On The Deck of
a Spanish Sailing Ship, 1492” Jermon Lambert and Company

“Just One Step” Carly Cramer

“I’m Not Afraid of Anything” Ava Whitaker

“The River Won’t Flow” Jermon Lambert, Joe Murphy,
Sawyer Nevins and Company

Transition to “Stars and the Moon” Olivia Evans

“Stars and the Moon” Ava Whitaker

“The Steam Train” Jermon Lambert and Company

ACT TWO – Song Breakdown

“The World Was Dancing”	Olivia Evans, Joe Murphy
“Surabaya Santa”	Carly Cramer
“Christmas Lullaby”	Olivia Evans
“King of the World”	Jermon Lambert
“I’d Give it All For You”	Ava Whitaker, Sawyer Nevins
Transition to “The Flagmaker, 1775”	Sawyer Nevins
“The Flagmaker, 1775”	Ava Whitaker
“Flying Home”	Jermon Lambert and Company
Final Transition “The New World”	Carly Cramer and Company
“Hear My Song”	Company

Production Crew

Box Office Assistants.....	Sutton Dycus, Kay Gilchrist, Makenzie Schutter
Costume Shop Prep	Allison Browning, Alice Crist, Arch Crist, Ethan Hosack, Sydney Johnson, Shannon King, Quinn McCardle, Zachary Phelps, Samantha Piscatelli, Izzy Porzillo, Fae Riemann-Royer, Paige Trew
Light Board Operator	Arden Ogilvie
Spot Operators.....	Wyatt Munsey, Sarah Whitehead
Sound Board Operator.....	Sydnee Sisk
Deck Crew.....	Chloe Anderson, Devin Michael Leming
Production Prep Crew	Ashley Russell, Alley Mathis, Claire McLewin, Nylah Strong, Sela Booher, Aisha Perez, Amanda Barnes
Wardrobe Supervisor	Keira Anderson
Wardrobe Run Crew.....	Colleen O’Gara, Keira Anderson, Morgan Siegel, Hugh Paul
House Manager	Mallory Womeldorff
Ushers.....	Leora Zimmerman, Sydney Johnson

Playhouse Artistic/Production Staff

Dean of the Conservatory for the Performing Arts	Jennifer Hemphill
Director of Technical Production/Chair.....	Michael Burke
Resident Costume Designer	Martha J. Clarke
Resident Scenic/Lighting Designer	Brandon PT Davis
Resident Sound Designer	Michael Burke
Director of Engagement.....	Ruth Ann Burke
Scene Shop Supervisor.....	Katie Cohen
Collaborative Accompanists.....	Travis McFarlane, Audra Sergel
Admissions Navigator	Kristy Simpson
Conservatory Faculty	Lisa Brescia, Darren Gibson, Jamey Grisham, John Hemphill, Nollie Moore
Conservatory Work Study	Sutton Dycus, Kay Gilchrist, Ashley Russell, RiQuandrion Mangum, Fae Riemann-Royer, Quinten Loveland, Yasmin Bacelar de Souza, Asher Kenney, Makenzie Schutter

Director's Note

It is our privilege and joy to welcome you to the Stephens College Conservatory for the Performing Arts' production of *Songs for a New World* by the acclaimed composer/lyricist, Jason Robert Brown (composer or composer/lyricist of *The Last Five Years*, *Parade*, *13*, *Honeymoon in Vegas*, *Mr. Saturday Night*, starring Billy Crystal, and *The Bridges of Madison County*, among others).

One of his most oft-produced projects is *Songs for a New World*. Known as a "song cycle," this show features his early works, artfully blended into a collection of musical "short stories." The themes in these stories are universal: we all have the capacity to laugh, to experience joy, and to reckon with our own obstacles to a life lived freely and fully. We will have relationships that go awry, personal shortcomings, and deep, inner resources of strength. *Songs for a New World* reminds us that there is beauty, joy, humor, pain, resilience, hope, and a steadfast life-force in all of us.

We hope you enjoy these terrific young actors in this touching and funny piece; we are deeply grateful for your presence here tonight.

With warmth and appreciation,

Lisa Brescia

Who's Who in the Cast



Carly Cramer

This is Carly's first year here at Stephens College. She is a second-year transfer from Rock Springs, Wyoming, but she grew up in Winchester, Virginia. In her spare time she enjoys watching horror movies, video games, and cuddling with her tuxedo cat named Black Jack.



Olivia Evans

Olivia is a second-year musical theatre major and is beyond excited to be a part of Songs for a New World. Recent credits include *The Wedding Singer* at the Okoboji Summer Theatre, and last spring she appeared in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* as Anne Page.



Jermon Lambert

Growing up in Wichita, Kansas, Jermon Lambert, Jr. found that music was the path that chose him. It became a bigger part of his life hearing Beyoncé, Tina Turner, Michael Jackson and so many others. He found himself doing everything that was related to and eventually found his way to Stephens College where he is now finishing his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre.



Sawyer Nevins

Sawyer Nevins is a first-year musical theatre student, and he's elated to perform in his debut at Stephens! He adores being on the stage and is excited to share this experience with the audience. He'd love to thank the directors, cast, and crew for their support.



Joe Murphy

Joseph Alan Murphy is a second-year musical theater student. He is excited to be starting his second year off with *Songs for a New World*. He has previously appeared in *Side By Side By Sondheim*, *Our Town* (George), *White Christmas*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Master Fenton), and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Panch). He loves the cast and crew and is so happy to be working with all of them.



Ava Whitaker

Ava Lorena Whitaker is a third-year Musical Theatre major from Louisville, Kentucky. Some of her favorite past roles include Olive Ostrovsky in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and Fran Kubelik in *Promises, Promises*. She would like to thank her parents for their unwavering love and support. @avalorena

Understudies/Pit Singers



Kylie Howard

Kylie is a second-year musical theatre major from Springfield, Missouri. This is her fifth show with Stephens. Some previous shows outside of Stephens include *Grease* (Jan), *SpongeBob SquarePants* (Electric Skate), and *Shrek* (Dragon). She would love to thank her mom and dad for being her biggest cheerleaders!



Lily Mace

Lily is a first-year musical theatre major and is thrilled to be making her debut performance in the Macklanburg Playhouse. Previous shows include *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), and *A Chorus Line* (Val). She is so excited and incredibly grateful to be working with this absolute dream team!



Quan Mangum

RiQuandrion Mangum is a pit singer and Man 1 understudy. He recently completed several projects at the Okoboji Summer Theatre and he's excited to be back at the Macklanburg Theatre to complete his last year of school. Performing credits include: *Let it Be*, *See How They Run*, and more (Okoboji Summer Theatre) and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *Our Town* (Stephens College). He hopes you enjoy the show!



Nicholas Youngstead

Nick Youngstead is a first-year musical theatre BFA student from Franklin, Tennessee and is ecstatic to be performing in his first show at Stephens College. Recent credits include *The Addams Family* (Expression City), and *The Christmas Schooner* (Source One Five), both in his hometown. Hope y'all enjoy the show!